

THE CHURCH AT CORINTH

Of the churches mentioned in the NT, which would you join? Not _____

Of all these NT churches, the problems of the church at _____ are described in the most detail

I. THE CITY

A. _____

1) Corinth was located in Greece on a very thin _____ connecting part of the country to the rest

2) Because of this strategic location, anything that was shipped by land or _____ had to go thru Corinth

B. _____

1) The city existed since 1600 BC; its heyday was _____ BC when it was one of largest Greek cities

2) The Romans destroyed it completely in 146 BC, but rebuilt it and made it the _____ of Greece

C. _____

1) The city was primarily Roman (Latin) rather than Greek, but it also had many freed _____

2) In addition to upper & lower classes, it also had an upwardly mobile middle class of _____

D. _____

It was filled with statues, images & _____ to gods & emperors; religion was part of the fabric of life

II. THE CHURCH

A. Because Paul had ministered 2 yrs there, this church had much more _____, a point of pride

B. The congregation was primarily Gentile, but there were also _____, which caused some friction

C. The believers in this church had been saved only _____ yrs; they were still worldly—too Corinthian

III. THE CONCERNS—how did Paul learn of these problems?

1) Paul was w/ _____ when he wrote 2) a letter from _____ household 3) a letter from the church

Indications of firsthand knowledge of the Corinthian church are indicated by the phrase “Now _____”

A. Concern #1: Divisions in the church based on _____

B. Concern #2: Tolerance of _____

C. Concern #3: Civil _____ against fellow Christians

D. Concern #4: Division over the proper response of Christians to _____

E. Concern #5: The “Haves” treatment of the _____

F. Concern #6: Spiritual superiority based on speaking in _____

G. Concern #7: The heresy of rejecting the doctrine of the bodily _____

PRACTICAL CONSIDERATIONS

1) While Paul was blunt in this letter, he was also _____ and gentle in addressing their many problems

2) We ought to be patient with problems in our own church, refusing to act like ecclesiastical _____

3) Many in this congregation were a _____ but Paul continued to work with them and pray for them